

## ***MEMORANDUM TO THE WATER POLICY TASK FORCE***

***February 10, 2004***

**TO:** *Members of the Water Policy Task Force*

**FROM:** *Daniel E. Griset, Sr. Regional Planner, X895, griset@scag.ca.gov*

**SUBJECT:** *An Introductory Dialogue with Councilmember Mary Ann Lutz*

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Receive for future dialogue with Regional Board members.

### **BACKGROUND:**

Monrovia City Councilmember Mary Ann Lutz was recently appointed by the Governor to the Regional Water Board. Her appointment to the municipal government seat on the Board brings a business-oriented local official to important environmental policy work in the SCAG region. This is an opportunity for members of the Task Force to get acquainted with Mary Ann and to share views on water quality concerns affecting our region's watersheds.

The Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board has nine members, representing various roles and experience. The Los Angeles Board includes the following members: Chair Susan Cloke (representing recreation, fish and wildlife), Fran Diamond (public member), David Nahai (water quality), Timothy Shaheen (irrigated agriculture), Bradley Mindlin (industrial water use), Julie Buckner-Levy (water quality), Bonny Herman (county government), and Mary Ann Lutz (municipal government).

The policies set by this Board have been followed widely by other Boards throughout California. This underscores the value of constructive dialogue with Board members as they update the Los Angeles Basin Plan, define beneficial uses of local waterbodies, establish water quality objectives, adopt water quality plans (TMDLs) to eliminate water impairments and issue discharge permits to local governments, businesses and industries.

SCAG has adopted water quality policy that favors "areawide" or watershed initiatives. This policy aims to better combine environmental improvements with cost-effective implementation strategies. Under the rubric of quality of life priorities, this policy is grounded in a commitment to more sustainable watershed management that uses collaboration between local agencies to stretch resources and multiply public benefits.